

## Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 NSF-04 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 CU-04 COME-00 HEW-08 AGR-20 EB-11 DRC-01 /082 W

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P 140028Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9240

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY MX

SUBJ: PREPARATION FOR FIRST MEETING US/MEXICO MIXED COMMISSION  
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT, SCHEDULED FOR WASHINGTON  
FEBRUARY 1974; DISCUSSION AT DEC 11 BREAKFAST SESSION.

REF: A. MEXICO 8748; B. MEXICO 8757

1. REFTEL A REPORTED ON THE NSF TEAM VISIT OF MID-NOVEMBER AND  
INITIAL PREPARATIONS FOR FEBRUARY MIXED COMMISSION MEETING. IN-  
CLUDED WAS PLAN FOR STAFF LEVEL MEETING, WASHINGTON, MID-JANUARY  
ON WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS NOT YET PROVIDED GUIDANCE TO EMBASSY.  
REFTEL B PROVIDED TEXT OF AGENDA FOR MIXED COMMISSION MEETING  
PROPOSED AT THAT TIME BY GOM.

2. DCM, EMBASSY SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ATTACHES BREAKFASTED  
WITH FONSEC AND TOP CONACYT REPS ON DECEMBER 11 AT INVITATION  
CONACYT DIRGEN BUENO. FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDERSECRETARY  
GALLASTEGUI PRESENT DURING ENTIRE TWO-HOUR SESSION.

3. DISCUSSION TOPIC WAS GOM CONCEPT OF AGENDA OF JANUARY STAFF  
LEVEL PREPARATORY SESSIONS (SEPTTEL) FOR THE FEBRUARY MIXED  
COMMISSION MEETING, COVERING BOTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BILATERAL  
AND TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE; SELECTION OF DATES FOR JANUARY SESSIONS,  
AND LEVEL OF REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH GOVERNMENT FOR BOTH JANUARY  
AND FEBRUARY MEETINGS. ALSO REVIEWED WAS POINT THREE OF DRAFT  
AGENDA FORWARDED IN REF B.

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4. GOM PROPOSES THAT TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE BE CONSIDERED ON JANUARY 14-15, AND THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT, ON WHICH THE FORMER IS BASED, JANUARY 16-17.

5. IT IS APPARENT THAT GOM IS GIVING EXTRAORDINARY ATTENTION TO JANUARY SESSIONS AND ANTICIPATES THAT ALL MAJOR PROGRAMMATIC, PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS WILL BE RESOLVED AT THAT TIME LEAVING NO SURPRISES FOR FEBRUARY MEETING SO THAT MIXED COMMISSION MAY DEVOTE ITS TIME TO A) REVIEW OF TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE SITUATION; B) REVIEW OF FIRST YEAR NSF-CONACYT ACTIVITIES, TOGETHER WITH DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SECOND YEAR NSF-CONACYT PROGRAM; AND C) IDENTIFICATION OF RESPECTIVE FEDERAL AGENCIES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS CHARGED WITH ACTIONS IN AREAS OF THEIR INTEREST AND COMPETENCE, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BROAD POLICY GUIDELINES FOR FUTURE COOPERATION.

6. WITH REFERENCE TO ITEM 5A) ABOVE, EMBASSY URGED DEPARTMENT IN REF A TO SEEK DESIGNATION OF QUALIFIED EXECUTIVE AGENT AND IMMEDIATE ADEQUATE SOLUTION OF FINANCING OF TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE AGREEMENT, SINCE THIS OBLIGATION UNDERTAKEN AT HIGHEST LEVEL. THIS NOW ACQUIRES GREATER URGENCY.

7. ITEM 5B) REPRESENTS NORMAL FUNCTION OF SUPERIOR BODY AND SHOULD PRESENT NO PROBLEM. INVOLVED HERE ESSENTIALLY IS THE PRESENT EXECUTIVE AGENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NSF AND CONACYT, AS FAR AS THAT HAS DEVELOPED TO DATE. IN THIS CONNECTION FONSEC REP, SANTIAGO MEYER, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, NOTED THAT NSF HAS LIMITED CAPABILITIES AND/OR AUTHORIZATION, ADDING THAT GOM SEES A NEED FOR INTERACTION OF OTHER SCIENTIFIC AGENCIES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS IN FIELDS BEYOND NSF PURVUE, HENCE THEIR PROPOSAL OF FIRST PART OF ITEM 5C).

8. AT THIS JUNCTURE DCM CALLED FOR DISCUSSION OF GOM PRIORITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AS RELATED TO US INTERESTS AND CAPABILITIES, EXPRESSING BELIEF THAT MUTUALITY IS KEY TO PROGRESS AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST WILL BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE IN SETTING POLICIES AND WORKING OUT FUTURE PROGRAMS. HE ALSO HIGHLIGHTED DESIRABILITY THAT EXCHANGE PROGRAM TRAINEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SELECTION MESH WITH THOSE PRIORITIES.

9. IN REPLY DIRGEN BUENO CONCURRED WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH THESE CONCEPTS, AND STATED THAT GOM HAS ESTABLISHED PRIORITIES IN FOLLOWING:

I. AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE: NATIONAL PROGRAMS IN FOOD AND NUTRITION, HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHY, TROPICAL

ECOLOGY AND USE OF TROPICAL RESOURCES, HOUSING. THE FIRST  
FOUR ARE OF IMMEDIATE PRIORITY, THE LAST TWO OF LONGER RANGE.

II. AREAS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH: UTILIZATION (AND DEVELOPMENT)  
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, MARINE RESOURCES, MINERAL RESOURCES,  
AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRY.

III. AREA OF EXTERNAL DEPENDENCE; TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (SELECTION,  
ADAPTATION, DIFFUSION).

IV. AREA OF THE STRENGTHENING OF  
SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE: CREATION AND STRENGTHENING  
OF NEW RESEARCH CENTERS (OCEANOGRAPHY AT ENSENADA, B.C.: TIDES  
WAVE MOTION, CURRENTS; TROPICAL ECOLOGY, EPIDEMIOLOGY, SEROEPIDE-  
MIOLOGY, TROPICAL OPHTHALMOLOGY AT CHIAPAS; APPLIED CHEMISTRY AT  
SALTILLO; UTILIZATION OF ARID ZONES PRODUCTS SUCH AS GUAYULE,  
CANDELILLA WAX, PALM DATES).

V. TRAINING OF MANPOWER (HUMAN  
RESOURCES).

VI. INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES.

VII. INVENTORY OF CAPABILITITES (INCLUDING DIAGNOSIS).

VIII. METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES.  
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10. BUENO ADDED THAT GOM REPRESENTATION AT JANUARY MEETING WOULD INCLUDE, BESIDES FONSEC AND CONACYT, OTHER GOM AGENCY SPOKESMEN FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THOSE AREAS. THEY WILL IDENTIFY FIELDS AND SPOKESMEN IN COURSE SECOND MEETING NEXT WEEK. FYI EMBASSY WILL ENDEAVOR HOLD DOWN SIZE OF GOM DELEGATION END FYI.

11. MINISTER DEAN COMMENTED THAT KNOWLEDGE OF THESE PROGRAMS IS BASIC FOR USG AUTHORITIES BOTH TO UNDERSTAND GOM AREAS OF PRIORITY AND TO PREPARE CORRESPONDING REPRESENTATION FOR THE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY MEETINGS.

12. CORRESPONDING TO DCM LISTING OF PRIORITIES AND AT DCM REQUEST, SCICOUNS MENTIONED AREAS OF CURRENT AND/OR POSSIBLE FUTURE USG INTEREST AND INTER-ACTION WITH MEXICO: AGRICULTURE; MARINE SCIENCES; NATURAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING NON-RENEWABLE; ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING DESALTING; THE ENVIRONMENT; WEATHER SERVICES, INCLUDING HURRICANE PREDICTION; NATURAL DISASTERS, SUCH AS EARTHQUAKES; DRUGS AND OTHER HEALTH FIELDS; SPACE TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION.

13. MINISTER DEAN COMMENTED ON CURRENT INTERACTION PROGRAMS IN METEOROLOGY WHERE THERE IS A DAILY EXCHANGE OF DATA BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES; AGRICULTURE, WITH THE AFTOSA AND SCREWORM ERADICATION PROGRAMS; IDENTIFICATION OF MARIHUANA FIELDS BY REMOTE SENSING AND THEIR DESTRUCTION BY AIRBORNE HERBICIDES; AND JOINT RESEARCH IN GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

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14. RE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION: PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT JANUARY MEETING WILL BE AT STAFF LEVEL, WHILST GOM DELEGATION TO FEBRUARY MIXED COMMISSION WILL BE SUB-CABINET LEVEL, WITH UNDER-SECRETARY GALLASTEGUI AS PRINCIPAL, CONACYT DIRGEN BUENO AS ALTERNATE.

15. BOTH PARTIES CONCURRED IN THAT THE NEW GOM SCICOUNS ASSIGNED TO THE MEXICAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON COULD HELP GREATLY IN PREPARATION FOR BOTH MEETINGS.

16. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF BROAD-RANGING DISCUSSION AT HIGHEST GOM LEVEL AND ADVANCED STATE GOM PREPARATION FOR FORTHCOMING MEETING, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT PRESENT US EXECUTIVE AGENTS FOR BOTH AGREEMENTS, RESPECTIVELY THE DEPARTMENT AND NSF, ACCELERATE US PREPARATIONS. IT IS ALSO IMPERATIVE THAT USG BE PREPARED MATCH GOM DELEGATION WITH APPROPRIATE USG REPS FOR JANUARY MEETING.

17. PARTICULAR ATTENTION IS INVITED TO PARA NO. 6 ABOVE. GIVEN HIS ABIDING INTEREST IN THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND CONSTANT PRODDING BY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, IT ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT FONSEC RABASA WILL TAKE UP THIS POINT WITH THE SECRETARY IN BILATERAL CONVERSA-

TIONS AT FORTHCOMING MEETING OF LA CHANCELLORS NOW TENTATIVELY  
SCHEDULED FOR MEXICO CITY IN SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY.

18. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED SOONEST.  
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## Message Attributes

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